

Message Text

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PAGE 01 COTONO 01923 161949Z

65

ACTION L-03

INFO OCT-01 AF-06 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02

INR-07 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-06 MC-02 EB-07 NRC-05 TRSE-00 ERDA-05 COME-00

OPIC-03 AID-05 /092 W

----- 058426

R 161610Z DEC 75

FM AMEMBASSY COTONOU

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7924

INFO AMEMBASSY PARIS

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE COTONOU 1923

EO 11652: NA

TAGS: BGEN, PINR, DM

SUBJ: LOCAL LAWS GOVERNING INVOLVEMENT BY AGENTS IN SALES
TO GOVT

REF STATE 258169

1. EMBASSY HAS CONSULTED JUDGE OF BENIN SUPREME COURT REGARDING LOCAL LAWS OR REGULATIONS GOVERNING INVOLVEMENT BY AGENTS IN SALES TO GOVT. TO THE BEST OF HIS KNOWLEDGE NO SUCH LEGISLATION EXISTS IN BENIN. IN THAT CASE FRENCH LAWS ON THE SUBJECT PROMULGATED PRIOR TO 1960 WOULD BE THE GOVERNING LEGISLATION IN BENIN. (NOTE: FRENCH LEGISLATION APPLICABLE IN PRE-INDEPENDENCE DAHOMEY REMAINS LAW OF LAND UNLESS SUPERSEDED BY LOCAL LEGISLATION PROMULGATED IN POST-INDEPENDENCE PERIOD). AGENTS OPERATE FREELY WITHIN THE COUNTRY.

2. FYI: SUBJECT IS TOUCHY ONE IN THIS COUNTRY ALTHOUGH GRAFT IS VERY WIDESPREAD. KEREKOU AND HIS COHORTS, WHO SEIZED POWER FROM A CIVILIAN GOVT IN 1972, CITED PAYOFFS AS ONE OF PRETEXTS FOR THEIR ACTION. ACCUSATIONS THAT PRES KEREKOU ACCEPTED PAYOFFS FROM FRENCH BUSINESSMAN ATTEMPTING TO PER-

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SUADE GOVT PAY DEVT FOR PURCHASE OF OFFICE FURNITURE WERE

USED AS JUSTIFICATION FOR AN UNSUCCESSFUL COUP AGAINST HIM
LAST JAN.
ENGLE

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: BRIBERY, POLICIES, LAW, GOVERNMENT PERSONNEL, BUSINESS FIRMS, PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 16 DEC 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: CunninFX
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Document Unique ID: 00
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Film Number: D750437-0531
From: COTONOU
Handling Restrictions: n/a
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ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19751236/aaaabgbb.tel
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Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 75 STATE 258169
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Review Authority: CunninFX
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
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To: STATE
Type: TE
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